

Pursuing NASM approval for an undergraduate music technology degree

Nathan Wolek, PhD • Stetson University • School of Music

nwolek@stetson.edu • www.nathanwolek.com

1) **General Questions** – things to ask before you commit to pursuing new degree

- A. Why do we want a music technology degree?
- B. Do I have the support of my institution?
- C. What will be our emphasis within music technology?
- D. What do I want the students to get out of this degree?

2) **NASM publications** – resources that you must have access to

- A. *Policies and Procedures for Reviews of New Curricula*
- B. *National Association of Schools of Music Handbook*
- C. *Instructions for Preparing Curricular Tables in the NASM format*

3) **Curricula Design Issues** – factors that affect your course offerings

- A. Institution Support – how the administration must help
 - i. Fiscal
 - ii. Facilities
 - iii. Faculty
- B. Course Development – determining how the pieces fit together
 - i. Sequencing
 - ii. Synthesis
 - iii. Methods of Instruction

C. Existing Programs – your program's place in the educational environment

i. Courses from other departments

ii. General music majors

iii. Non-music majors

4) Planning Your Timeline – preparing yourself for the process ahead

A. NASM Plan Approval – working toward Oct 1st or May 1st

B. Communication with colleagues – keeping the lines open

C. Approval within the institution – working with campus committees

D. NASM Final Listing – filing again after 3 graduates

5) Preparing Your Report – what your report needs to look like

A. Follow the Outline – formatting that is easy to follow

B. Writing Your Prose – brief passages that get to the point

C. Special Pieces – sections that require special formatting

i. Curricular table

ii. Library holdings and acquisitions

iii. Financial report from the dean or chair

6) Summary